

FOCAL POINT

Regionalism

Your Frisco City Council meets twice a month for regularly scheduled meetings, but is that the extent of the commitment? When I am asked how many hours a week I spend fulfilling the role of Mayor, my answer is somewhere between 35-50 hours per week. That is a lot of hours for two meetings a month!

The reality is that being an elected official in a fast growing community such as Frisco entails many different responsibilities over a broad range of areas.

Many other meetings and obligations take place on a daily basis. For example, I attempt to set routine meetings with business partners and our citizens on Mondays. On an average

Monday, I may have anywhere from 6-14 meetings and events and I love the opportunity to expose our city government to so many people. The rest of the week is spent on other meetings, functions and obligations specific to items we may be working on as a city. What are some of those obligations? One component of those obligations is our commitment to regional boards and commissions. While Frisco has always excelled at planning, we also depend on many other organizations to represent us or provide us services. Below, I have listed some of the regional organizations we work with on a regular and, many times, full-time basis:

Arts of Collin County – This three-city commission is working on an arts district, which is a collaborative effort between the cities of Plano, Allen and Frisco.

Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition (DRMC): A coalition of cities, counties and public transportation agencies working together on transportation issues. Frisco has a board position and is a member of this organization.

Metropolitan Mayor's Association: I am

See **mayor**, next page



MAYOR'S
MESSAGE

**MAYOR
MAHER MASO**

Deck the Halls an Hour Longer at this Year's Merry Main Street



FriscoMerryMainStreet.com

Get ready to catch the holiday spirit because the City of Frisco is bringing you the biggest Merry Main Street celebration yet with new, extended hours. The festivities begin an hour earlier at 5 p.m. and continue until 9 p.m. The 18th annual Merry Main Street happens December 6 at the George A. Purefoy Municipal Center and Simpson Plaza at City Hall, located at 6101 Frisco Square Blvd.

The extended hours will allow more Frisco Elementary School choirs to perform. The students will sing from three stages located around the plaza filling the air with favorite carols and fun holiday songs.

Another important tradition of Merry Main Street is the Tree Lighting Ceremony. This year the ceremony will begin earlier in the evening at 6:00 p.m. with the lighting of the Christmas tree

taking place some time between 6:20 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Santa's made his list and checked twice so he'll be ready to greet all the 'nice' children of Frisco. The man in red will spend the night taking pictures with girls and boys and listening to their wish lists. You can count on favorite holiday friends like Rudolph and Frosty to join the fun, too.

A brand new Merry Main Street exhibit ties into Frisco's railroad history. The Spring Creek Railroad Train Club will display an impressive collection of model trains inside the Frisco Square storefront just northeast of the Simpson Plaza fountain. The replicas are models from the 1880s to the present day and include steam, diesel, freight and passenger equipment.

Still looking for presents? The 'Kids' Holiday Store' pro-

vides an opportunity for children 12 and younger to find something special for mom, dad, grandparents or even a brother or sister. Everything in the store is priced at \$5 or less.

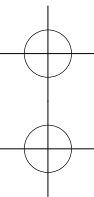
The following week the Yuletide traditions continue as the Main Street Merchants Association, in partnership with the Heritage Association of Frisco, hosts 'Holidays in Old Town' on Saturday, December 13, 2008. The holiday activities will include making homemade bird feeders, decorating hats and much more.

The 'Holidays in Old Town' festivities include the 2008 Historic Home Tour on Saturday, December 13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This year the tour features seven properties: four private homes, one historic home being used for commercial purposes and the restored Lebanon

Church and Frisco Train Depot in the Heritage Center. Tickets are \$10 and include a dessert being provided by Babe's Chicken Dinner House. Tickets are on sale now online at www.friscoheritage.org.

The City of Frisco is proud to partner with Frisco Square to bring you the largest choreographed holiday lights and music display in Texas. Christmas in the Square lights and music will run nightly Friday, November 28 to January 2.

The City of Frisco's Holiday Happenings Web page has the complete list of city-sponsored activities. Go online to FriscoMerryMainStreet.com – or to friscotexas.gov and look for the link called '2008 Holiday Happenings'. Page 7 of this edition of Focal Point also lists the city-sponsored holiday activities.



Black Plate



HOW TO REACH US

EDITOR

Darcy Schroer
Communications Specialist
972-292-5077
dschroer@friscotexas.gov

CONTRIBUTORS

Dana Baird
Director of Communications
& Media Relations
972-292-5080
dbaird@friscotexas.gov

Martha Diaz
Engineering Services
972-292-5414
mmdiaz@friscotexas.gov

Melody Emadiazar
Water Education Coordinator
972-292-5814
memadiazar@friscotexas.gov

Steve Foster
GIS Programmer
972-292-5174
sfoster@friscotexas.gov

Jennifer Tramel
Safety Town Volunteer
Coordinator
Frisco Fire Department
972-292-6353
jtramel@friscotexas.gov

Jami Jensen
Marketing Coordinator
Parks & Recreation Dept
972-292-6515
jjensen@friscotexas.gov

Glynda Covington
Community Services
Division
Frisco Police Department
972-292-6134
gcovington@friscotexas.gov

Jeremy Starritt
Environmental Education
Coordinator
972-292-5914
jstarritt@friscotexas.gov

Ryan Wolford
EMS Coordinator
Frisco Fire Department
972-292-6311
rwolford@friscofire.com

PHOTOGRAPHY

Dana Baird

Aaron Cobb
Videographer
972-292-5075
acobb@friscotexas.gov

Tom Kraemer
AV Manager
972-292-5076
tkraemer@friscotexas.gov

Frisco City Hall
George A. Purefoy
Municipal Center
6101 Frisco Square Blvd.
Frisco, TX 75034
(972) 292-5000

The Frisco Athletic Center Celebrates Its One Year Anniversary!



Pumped up about renewing your FAC membership? Call 972-292-6600 or go online to FriscoFun.org for details about how Founding FAC Members and Annual Members can save money on their next yearly membership!

A successful first year

Since opening its doors on October 29, 2007 the Frisco Athletic Center has welcomed more than 19,000 members and guests to the facility. The FAC has become a one-stop-shop for Frisco families looking for family fitness and recreation – at a great value! In addition to the outstanding membership activities, the FAC has provided excellent classes and programs focusing on fitness, athletics, leisure activities, personal training and birthday parties.

Continuing to improve

In an effort to add more value to its membership, the FAC has increased several services in the last 12 months, including:

- Increasing operational hours in the Fun Club by 40 percent
- Increasing free group fitness classes by more than 35 percent
- Adding "eFun", quick and easy online registration for classes and events
- Opening of Café Frisco
- Substantial increase in staffing to better meet your needs

In the coming weeks, members will also notice other improvements in and around the Frisco Athletic Center. Some of these upgrades include a new custodial crew to enhance the cleanliness of the facility, fresh coats of paint and refinished floors, and additional equipment on the fitness floor.

All of these items, in addition to new customer service initiatives, are a way of saying thank you for a great first year. We commit to continually improve and exceed members' expectations at the Frisco Athletic Center.

Membership Renewal Specials

Founding Members will receive 10 percent off the regular membership rate if they renew on or before December 14. For example if you currently have a resident family membership, instead of paying \$600, you will pay \$540 – a savings of \$60! This special is only valid for our current Founding Members.

Annual Members will receive 5 percent off the regular membership rate if they renew more than one month before their expiration date. For example, if you currently have a resident family membership, instead of paying \$600, you will pay \$570 – a savings of \$30! This special is only valid for our current Annual Members.

For more information visit us online at FriscoFun.org or call us at 972-292-6600.

MAYOR

Continued from page 1

a member of this association which brings Mayors throughout North Texas together on a monthly basis to discuss regional issues. Updates on these issues take place at each meeting and we work together to make North Texas a better place. The success of our neighbors will help us continue to grow and we use this monthly meeting as an opportunity to discuss a broad range of issues.

North Texas Commission (NTC): This organization is another regional, non-profit made up of businesses, cities, counties, chambers of commerce, economic development corporations and higher education institutions in the North Texas region. NTC works to improve and promote economic prosperity and quality of life in the DFW area. Frisco is also a member of this organization.

Rail North Texas Coalition (RNTC): This board is studying ways to build and fund regional rail in North Texas. In coordination with the North Texas Council of Governments and the Regional Transportation Council, a regional rail corridor study was commissioned. Elected officials, planners, business and the public are working towards finding funding mechanisms to speed up the rail projects in our communities. Frisco is a member of this group and I sit on the RNTC board.

Regional Transportation Council (RTC): This organization is one that Frisco has worked very hard to get a board seat on. Thanks to the efforts of former Mayor Mike Simpson, our city staff, our council and many others, we were able to achieve this accomplishment. One of my priorities was to get this position awarded to Frisco and thankfully, I can now cross it off my to-do list! The RTC is an independent transportation policy body of the Metropolitan Planning Organization. It is made up of 40 members, 33 local elected or appointed officials represent-

ing cities and counties and seven transportation provider representatives.

Tex-21: This statewide non-profit organization is made up of numerous member cities, counties, transit, port and other transportation authorities, international trade corridors, as well as university and industry leaders. Tex-21 tackles statewide transportation policy issues. Frisco is also a member of this organization. These are just some of the organizations we belong to and we attend regular meetings, work sessions and initiative efforts. I did not address some of the internal boards and commissions we have nor other regional and state wide authorities we deal with as it would make this article a little on the long side. As we continue to grow, it is critical for Frisco to stay engaged with our partners for funding and planning needs. With your support, Frisco will continue to be a great regional partner as we help plan our community for the future.

**Regards,
Mayor Maher Maso**

HOLIDAY HOURS

In observance of the upcoming holidays the City of Frisco government offices will be closed on the days listed below.

For specific holiday hours at all city facilities, look on the home page of FriscoTexas.gov as each holiday approaches.

Thanksgiving
Thursday, November 27
Friday, November 28

Christmas
Thursday, December 25
Friday, December 26

New Year's Day
Thursday, January 1

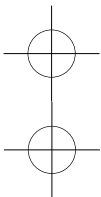
Visit us on the Web!

Check out **www.friscotexas.gov**, the complete guide to your city government.

Look for the latest alerts and press releases on the home page, or sign up to receive City of Frisco news at your email address.

To subscribe, go to the home page. Click on the 'E-News' link on the right-hand side of the screen.

We also invite you to explore the 'Online Services' link to learn more about the city services you can access through the Internet.



The City of Frisco's Environmental Services now has 29 streets designated in the Adopt-A-Street program. We are always looking for more groups and individuals to adopt their own two mile stretch of

Frisco roads (one mile – but both sides of the street). If you are interested in participating or want more information, please call 972-292-5900 or go to www.FriscoTexas.gov/recycle.

The City of Frisco provides curbside Christmas tree recycling to all residents. All trees collected will be composted, and not taken to the landfill.

The City of Frisco provides curbside Christmas tree recycling to all residents. All trees collected will be composted, and not taken to the landfill.

- Place tree(s) out on your regular collection day.
- Place tree (s) 3 feet away from cart.
- Remove supports (metal and wood), electrical wiring, lights, tinsel and ornaments.
- Do not cover with plastic bag, as this will prevent pick up.

Flocked trees are not acceptable. The chemical component in the flocking material prevents composting of these trees. For a

\$10 charge per tree, CWD will provide collection. Call 972-392-9300 to arrange pick up. Trees must comply with the following guidelines for pick up:

- Trees more than five feet in height must be cut into sections not exceeding four feet in length or 60 lbs each.
- Place three feet away from your trash/recycling carts. Trees will be collected on Saturdays and not necessarily on regular service day.

Do-it-yourself disposal is available at the Custer Road Transfer Station (9901 Custer Road in Plano).

This month's pick from the Texas Demonstration Garden is a hardy shrub, the wax myrtle. Its resilience in cold weather and heat tolerance in dry summers make it a pleasurable addition to any North Texas landscape. While its small flowers may be difficult to spot, its formidable shelter all year-round for local birds rarely goes unnoticed.

This month's pick from the Texas Demonstration Garden is a hardy shrub, the wax myrtle. Its resilience in cold weather and heat tolerance in dry summers make it a pleasurable addition to any North Texas landscape. While its small flowers may be difficult to spot, its formidable shelter all year-round for local birds rarely goes unnoticed.



Plant Type:	Ornamental Tree
Plant Form:	Bushy
Light Required:	Full Sun, Partial Shade
Water Demand:	Medium
Plant Height (ft.):	15' – 18'
Plant Spread (ft.):	10'
Native Texas Plant:	Native
Deciduous/Evergreen:	Evergreen
Wildlife Value:	Birds
Notes:	A fast growing large shrub tha

A fast growing large shrub that can be trained as a multi trunked tree. Spicy, light green leaves and small blue berries (female). Outstanding choice for landscaping.

Find many more Texas Smartscapes™ native and adapted plants for your beautiful garden by visiting the City of Frisco's Public Works Demonstration Garden at 11300 Research Road or going online to www.txsmartscapes.com.



There will be no collection services on the following holidays:

- Thanksgiving Day, November 27
- Christmas Day, Dec. 25
- New Year's Day, January 1

If your service should fall on or a day after one of the noted holidays, then your trash and recycling collection will be provided one day later that week. For example, Thursday's usual service moves to Friday and Friday moves to Saturday.

The Environmental Collection Center will be closed on November 27 and 28, December 25 and 26, and January 1.

This fall and winter take a few extra precautions if you plan to water your landscape. Normal fall and winter weather conditions, and rainfall, replace the need for supplemental watering. Consider turning off your sprinkler system controller. Plants and landscapes require very little or no water during these seasons. Applying extra water to an already dormant turf is water waste

This fall and winter take a few extra precautions if you plan to water your landscape. Normal fall and winter weather conditions, and rainfall, replace the need for supplemental watering. Consider turning off your sprinkler system controller. Plants and landscapes require very little or no water during these seasons. Applying extra water to an already dormant turf is water waste

and can create potentially hazardous conditions for our streets and sidewalks when temperatures reach freezing.

Try this: once a month, during daylight hours, perform a 10 minute inspection of your sprinkler system. Your automatic timer may allow you to perform a test run, operating each zone for one to two minutes successively. Check the following:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Is water spraying on the street or sidewalk?
Is anything blocking the water from reaching
the appropriate area?
Are there any noticeable leaks?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Missing?
Broken?
Clogged up?
Pushed too far in the ground?
Tilted or spraying in the wrong direction?

If you checked “Yes” on any of these questions, you may need to make minor adjustments to your sprinkler system before continuing to operate it.

Call the water education office to schedule a free sprinkler system check-up at 972-292-5844. The

City of Frisco's irrigation specialist can help you get your feet wet with a 30-45 minute analysis. Be Waterwise! Reducing your water use outdoors will save you more on your next water bill and preserve our natural resource.

Monthly Road Project Update

The City of Frisco Engineering Services Department has the most current information on road projects available online. Go to www.friscotexas.gov/projectupdate.

1 CR 712 (Frisco Street - North County)

Scope: Construction of four lanes from Frisco Street to the RR Crossing and two lanes from the RR Crossing to North County Road. Construction began July 2008. Estimated completion of construction January 2009.

2 City Hall Parking Garage

Scope: Construct a five-story parking structure to accommodate roughly 570 cars. Estimated completion of design is spring 2009.

3 Frisco Square Blvd. Railroad Crossing

Scope: Street connection of Frisco Square Boulevard across the railroad tracks from Cook Street to West Main Street. Project includes relocating the Elm Street crossing to Frisco Square Boulevard with the RR signal and crossing gates. Construction began September 2008; Estimated Completion is January 2009.

4 Eldorado Pkwy (DNT - Preston Road) w/ overpass

Scope: Construct the northern three lanes and the third lane on the south side. This will complete the ultimate six-lane divided roadway with median and includes additional overpass at the BNSF RR. Landscaping, irrigation, and street lighting are included in this project. Design of six-lane facility is 95 percent complete. Estimated start of construction is January 2009.

5 FM 2934/Eldorado Pkwy (DNT - FM 423)

Scope: Replace existing two-lane asphalt roadway with a six-lane concrete roadway with median. Bid by TxDOT Feb 7, 2008. Construction began September 2008; Estimated completion is summer 2010.

6 FM 3537/Main Improvements (Custer - Preston)

Scope: Replace existing two-

lane asphalt roadway with a six-lane concrete roadway with median. This project will be bid and constructed by TxDOT. Design is approximately 60 percent complete. Estimated completion of design is Summer 2009.

7 FM 423 Improvements (Stewart Creek - Eldorado Parkway)

Scope: Replace existing two-lane asphalt roadway with six-lane concrete roadway with median. This project will be bid and constructed by TxDOT. The project includes streetlights and traffic signals. Estimated start of construction is Fall 2009.

8 FM 423 Improvements (Eldorado Pkwy - US 380)

Scope: Replace existing two-lane asphalt roadway with a six-lane concrete roadway with median. This project will be bid and constructed by TxDOT. Estimated start of construction is spring 2010.

9 Dogwood Street & Meadow Lane (Main - McKinney)

Scope: Reconstruct Meadow Lane & Dogwood Street with concrete surface and curb and gutter. Street lighting is included in this project. Project was bid in November 2008. Estimated start of construction is early 2009.

10 Rolater Road 42" Water Line (Coit Rd - Preston Rd)

Scope: Construct 42-inch steel water pipe line from Coit Road to Preston Road. The project is currently under construction. Construction is expected to be complete in spring 2009.

11 Panther Creek Pkwy (Teel - DNT)

Scope: Construction of four-lane divided roadway including landscape, irrigation, and street lighting. Extend four lanes of Legacy Drive to connect with Panther Creek Parkway. Construction of Legacy Drive is underway. Panther Creek Parkway opened to traffic on July 2, 2008. All construction complete January 2008.

12 FM 2478/Custer Rd (Stonebridge - US 380)

Scope: Widen existing two-lane asphalt roadway to six-lane concrete divided roadway. This project will be bid and constructed by TxDOT. Estimated start of construction is early 2009.

13 Teel Pkwy (Panther Creek Pkwy - North of Little River)

Scope: Construct eastern two lanes of Teel to provide four lanes of an ultimately six-lane road. Project is currently under construction. This project will be jointly funded by Frisco ISD. Construction began in June 2008. Estimated completion is fall 2008.

14 SH 121 Freeway FM 544 to DNT

Scope: Construct six main lanes and six lanes of frontage roads from FM 544 to Dallas North Tollway. Main lanes opened to traffic in September 2008. Estimated completion of construction is fall 2008.

15 SH 289/Preston Rd (Main - US 380)

Scope: Construct a six-lane divided roadway, which will replace the existing two-lane asphalt roadway. This project will be bid and constructed by TxDOT. Project was bid by TxDOT in October 2008. Estimated start of construction is early 2009.

16 Stonebrook Pkwy (Legacy - Longhorn)

Scope: Construct four lanes with an underpass at the BNSF RR, a railroad shoofly, and a bridge at Stewart Creek. Project includes federal wetland, permits, & environmental coordination. Design is 95 percent complete. Estimated start of construction is early 2009.

17 Rolater Drive (Independence - Custer)

Scope: Construct northern two lanes of Teel to provide four lanes of an ultimately six-lane roadway. Design is expected to be complete in summer 2009. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2009.

18 Lebanon Road - (FM 423 - Presidents Dr.)

Scope: Construct the southern two lanes of Lebanon Road from Presidents to FM 423



including a three lane bridge at Stewart Creek. This will complete four lanes of an ultimate six-lane divided roadway. Construction began in February 2008. Estimated completion is early 2009.

19 Intersection Capacity Improvements

Scope: Intersection improvements at the following intersections: Gaylord/Mall Road F, Parkwood/Hammons, and Main/Teel. Construction began in June 2008. Estimated completion is fall 2008.

20 Eubanks Street (Fifth Street - BNSF RR)

Scope: Reconstruct Eubanks Street with concrete pavement and enclosed storm drainage. The project is under design.

21 Lebanon & DNT Intersection Improvements

Scope: Construction of additional lanes of traffic for Lebanon to accommodate the NTA bridge widening. This project will increase the lanes on the eastbound and westbound approaches to the Ttollway. Construction is expected to begin in early 2009.

22 Virginia Pkwy (CR 26 - Preston Road)

Scope: Construct six lanes from County Road 26 to Preston Road. Project includes a bridge over BNSF RR. Construction is expected to begin in late 2009. Project is currently under design. Design is 30 percent complete.

23 NW Infrastructure

Scope: Analyze alternative alignments for water & sewer lines to serve properties near FM 423 and US 380. Design water and sewer lines to select-

ed alignment. Estimated completion of design is late 2008. Construction is expected to begin in 2009.

24 Eldorado/Independence Intersection Improvements

Scope: Widen from two lanes to four lanes of an ultimately six-lane roadway. Design is approximately 95 percent complete. Construction is expected to begin in early 2009 and to be completed in August 2009, prior to opening of the new Heritage High School.

25 Stonebrook Pkwy (DNT to Preston Road)

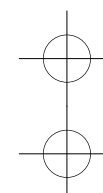
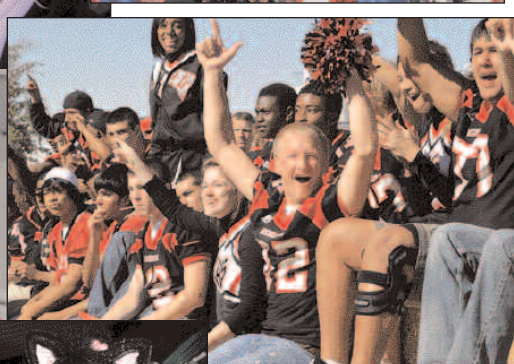
Scope: Install 36 inch waterline, reconstruct westbound lanes, and widen to six lanes. Design is approximately 30 percent complete and is expected to be completed in summer 2009. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2009.

AROUND TOWN

Here are some of the sights you may have missed during recent city events.

A real scream... The second annual **Fall Festival at Frisco Fire Safety Town** on October 24 was so much fun it was scary for thousands of children and their parents. Children filled their goody bags by trick-or-treating door-to-door at FFST's miniature buildings. Superheroes and princesses were the favorite choices to dress up as – along with traditional Halloween costumes like witches, cowboys – even a few little firefighters.

Proud to be an American... The **Frisco Community Parade** marched down Main Street on November 8, honoring American troops past and present. U.S. Congressman Ralph Hall served as Grand Marshal. Representative Hall served as an aircraft carrier pilot during World War II. The parade featured several Frisco ISD school groups and community organizations showing their Frisco pride.





HOMETOWN HAPPENINGS

December 1

- Frisco Public Art Board Meeting, Conference Room 5A, 6:30 p.m.
- Heritage Association, Frisco Train Depot, 7:00 p.m.

December 2

- City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 6:30 p.m.
- Downtown Advisory Board, 5th Floor Conference Room, 12:00 p.m.

December 9

- Planning & Zoning (P&Z) Meeting, Council Chambers 6:30 p.m.

December 10

- Convention Visitors Bureau (CVB), TBD, 12 p.m.
- Housing Trust Fund, Conference Room 5A, 6:30 p.m.

December 11

- Parks and Recreation Meeting, Council Chambers, 6:30 p.m.

December 16

- City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 6:30 p.m.

December 17

- Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors Meeting (EDC), 6801 Gaylord Parkway, 6 p.m.
- Urban Forestry Board, 6726 Walnut Street, 6:30 p.m.

December 18

- Arts of Collin County (ACC), City of Allen 4 p.m.
- North Texas Municipal Water District Meeting, 505 East Brown Street, Wylie, TX. 4 p.m.
- Community Development Corporation (CDC) Meeting, Conference Room 3A, 6:30 p.m.

December 22

- Frisco Neighborhood Watch General Meeting, Police Department, 7:30 p.m.

December 23

- Planning & Zoning (P&Z) Meeting, Council Chambers 6:30 p.m.

Stir Up an Instant Book Club

JUDY PEDERSEN

ADULT SERVICES LIBRARIAN

Now you can organize a book club instantly! Just check out a "Book Club in a Box" at the Frisco Public Library, and gather together a few friends. Each book club box includes multiple copies of a title (typically 4 or 5 copies), and information on the author and the book. Discussion questions are also included. So you will have everything you need to get started, except the readers. Sorry, you are on your own there!

To accommodate your group's needs, you can check out the box for six weeks — time enough to distribute the copies, read the book, and meet for discussion. Sometimes the discussion questions reveal the plot. In these cases, you will see a "spoiler" warning at the top of the sheet so you can avoid reading the questions until you have read the book.

A rotating selection of titles will be offered. The first boxes include mystery, inspirational, science fiction, historical and general fiction. Currently we are offering:

Mystery:

Child 44 by Tom Rob Smith

Three historical fiction titles:

Fall of Frost by Brian Hall

Ines of My Soul by Isabel Allende
Known World by Edward P Jones

General fiction:

Center of Everything by Laura Moriarty
Crow Lake by Mary Lawson
Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close by Jonathan Foer
Prodigal Summer by Barbara Kingsolver
Sweetwater by Roxana Robinson
Saturday by Ian McEwen

Upcoming titles:

Love in the Time of Cholera (romance);
Ginger Tree (historical fiction)
Gilead (inspirational fiction)
Master Butchers Singing Club (general fiction)
Jane Eyre (general fiction)

We invite you to explore the exciting opportunities offered by our "Book Club in a Box" materials. To find a title that interests you, search "book club in a box" in our catalog. However, we cannot accept holds on these items, so be sure to pick up your next book club title soon. Just visit the fourth floor Ask Us desk, where you can read an overview of the books and check out the box you want. Give one a try.

For more information on "Book Club in a Box" materials or other programs and services offered by the Frisco Public Library, please call 972-292-5669 or visit www.friscolibrary.com.

Safety the best present during holidays

December is the peak month for home burglaries. Talk to strangers through the door. Never let them inside your home. Call 911 if you are threatened.

The Frisco Police Department wants you to have a safe and happy holiday season. Go to FriscoTexas.gov/police for a complete list of Holiday Safety Tips. Practice the following guidelines to minimize your risk of becoming a crime victim:

At Home

- Make sure the doors and windows are locked and the garage door closed.
- Videotape the interior of your home and property to catalogue belongings like jewelry and electronics; keep a list of the makes, models and serial numbers.
- Put lights and a radio on timers so the house looks like someone is at home when you are not.
- If you are expecting any deliveries and know you won't be home, have packages sent to your work address or to a neighbor's address that will be home.
- Do not display gifts where they may

be seen through a window or doorway.

- If you are going out of town, tell a trusted neighbor how to reach you. Call the Frisco Police at 972-292-6000 to request extra patrol.

At Work

- Lock any gifts purchased on breaks in a safe place. Remind co-workers to do the same.
- Personal property needs to be stored in a locked desk or file cabinet drawer, not under the desk.

Smart Shopping

- Teach children how to identify store clerks and how to ask them for help. Teach them to never leave with a stranger.
- Shop with a friend and put packages in the trunk. Be cautious if you take packages out to your car and go back to shop.
- Do not lay handbags on the counter or leave in the shopping cart. If you do lay it in the shopping cart, use the baby seat strap to buckle it to the cart.
- When shopping at night, park your call underneath a light pole.



Holiday Tree and Decoration Safety

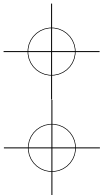
The holiday season is fast approaching, so the Frisco Fire Department would like to offer the following safety tips to make your celebration as safe and enjoyable as possible:

- Always choose as fresh a natural tree as possible. A fresh tree should not lose many needles when the trunk is tapped on the ground. Another test of freshness is to grasp a branch of the tree between the thumb and index finger and pull towards you. Very few needles should come off if the tree is fresh.

- Once the tree has been selected, cut one inch from the bottom of the trunk to help the tree absorb water. This should be done prior to any decorations. The tree stand should have at least a one-gallon capacity and a six-foot tree will use one gallon of water every two days. Check the water level every day.

- Secure the tree well so that it won't tip over once inside. Keep the tree away from floor heaters, fireplaces, vents, and other heat sources.

- Use only lights approved by Underwriter's Laboratories (UL) and never connect more than three strands together. Use miniature lights as they have cool-burning bulbs. Check the light strings for missing bulbs, cracked insulation, or broken sockets. Be sure to turn off all Christmas lights when away from home or sleeping.





Frisco 2008 Holiday Happenings



For more information about the City of Frisco's Holiday Happenings go online to FriscoMerryMainStreet.com

18TH ANNUAL MERRY MAIN STREET

Date: Saturday, December 6
Time: 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. (NEW - extended hours!)

Place: Simpson Plaza at the George A. Purefoy Municipal Center
6101 Frisco Square Blvd.
FREE Admission!

Thousands of lights, three stages of holiday music entertainment by Frisco elementary school choirs, horse-drawn carriage rides, the 'Kids' Holiday Store', live reindeer, the lighting of the Frisco holiday tree, and pictures with Santa: it's quite a list and only a few of the activities at this year's holiday event.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AND FRIENDS

Date: Saturday, December 6
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m. – Noon

Place: Senior Center at Frisco Square (6670 Moore St.)
Tickets: \$12 per person (2 and younger free)

Santa, Frosty and Rudolph invite children ages 12 and under to enjoy breakfast and Christmas activities with them. Tickets may be purchased in-person at the Frisco Athletic Center (5828 Nancy Jane Ln.) or online at FriscoFun.org through December 1. At least one responsible adult must attend with each child. Tickets will not be sold at the door.



Holiday Lights at Frisco Fire Safety Town

- Walk through our outdoor town decorated for the holiday season.
- E-mail Santa then see him live in the mini-fire station.
- Enjoy crafts and other activities sure to delight kids of all ages!

FriscoFire.com

FRISCO'S 3RD ANNUAL FROSTY 5K & MERRY 1K

Date: Saturday, December 13
Time: 9 a.m. – One mile fun run (5K starts immediately after fun run)

Place: Race begins and ends at Simpson Plaza
(6101 Frisco Square Blvd.)

Registration cost listed below.

Looking for a way to warm up this winter? Take a run with

Frosty and his friends. All ages are welcome! Youth ages 15 and under must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Early registration is \$20 per person and participants are guaranteed a shirt. Early registration is available through November 24. Late registration is open November 25 through December 11 (5 p.m.). Registration on race day is \$25 (cash or check only).

Those registering after early registration are not guaranteed a race shirt. Registration is available in-person at the Frisco Athletic Center or online at FriscoFun.org.

SANTA SKATE

Date: Saturday, December 13
Time: 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Location: Dr Pepper Star Center
2601 Avenue of the Stars

Tickets: \$10 per person (children 2 and younger free)

Enjoy an afternoon of ice skating with Santa and friends. Tickets

to this popular event are limited and won't be sold at the door. Tickets are \$10 per person and

include skate rental, a hot dog, chips and a drink. Skater and non-skater tickets are available.



Holiday Lights at

DATES:	DEC. 12, 13, 14 & DEC. 19, 20, 21, 22, 23
TIMES:	6:00 PM UNTIL 9:00 PM NIGHTLY
AGES:	TOTS TO FIFTH GRADERS
COST:	FREE
PLACE:	FRISCO FIRE SAFETY TOWN 8601 GARY BURNS DRIVE NEXT TO THE CENTRAL FIRE STATION

See www.friscofire.com, click Visit Safety Town for more details



2009 WINTER GAMES TEXAS

TEXAS AMATEUR ATHLETIC FEDERATION

The 2009 TAAF Winter Games of Texas return to Frisco for a fourth year on January 17 and 18. The event is expected to attract more than 4,000 of the best athletes in the state and 15,000 spectators.

Athletes of all abilities, and all age ranges, will compete to win and medal and a berth at the State Games of America in 2009. Fourteen different sports will take place over a two day period at facilities and sports fields primarily throughout Frisco, with one event taking place in Plano.

Sports in 2009 include basketball, Miracle League bowling, flag football, fencing, soccer, swimming, figure skating, gymnastics, wrestling, table tennis, cheerleading, ice hockey, rock climbing and the newest sport added, dance. What is the cost to watch all of these incredible action sports? Prices vary from free to a \$5 entry fee.

The games are organized by the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation, the Frisco Convention & Visitors Bureau, and the City of Frisco Parks and Recreation Department.

Visit the Web site taaf.com to find out how you can participant in an event, become a sponsor, or volunteer during the Winter Games. You can also call 1-877-GoFrisco (463-7472) for more information.



EVENT	VENUE	LOCATION
Celebration of Athletes	Frisco Athletic Center	Frisco
Basketball	Frisco ISD Gymnasiums	Frisco
Miracle League Bowling	Strikz Entertainment	Frisco
Cheerleading	Express Cheer & Dance	Frisco
Dance	Wakeland High School	Frisco
Fencing	Frisco Athletic Center	Frisco
Figure Skating	The Ice at Stonebriar Centre	Frisco
Flag Football	Liberty High School, Bacchus Community Park	Frisco
Gymnastics	ASI Gymnastics	Plano West
Ice Hockey	Dr Pepper StarCenter	Frisco
Rock Climbing	Canyons of Frisco	Frisco
Soccer	Warren Sports Complex, Frisco FISD Stadium Complex, B. F. Phillips Community Park	
Swimming	Frisco ISD Natatorium	Frisco
Table Tennis	Staley Middle School	Frisco
Wrestling	Centennial High School	Frisco

13TH ANNUAL Daddy Daughter Dance



Save the date!!!
**Saturday,
February 7, 2009**

Frisco Conference Center
(7600 John Q. Hammons Drive)
Theme: Enchanted Forest
Ages: 4 – 5: 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Ages: 6 – 7: 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Ages: 8 – 9: 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Ages: 10 – 12: 8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 per person, both dad's and daughters must each purchase a ticket for the dance. Dads attending more than one dance time must purchase a ticket for each dance they attend. The time slots with designated ages are recommendations only. You may purchase tickets to any dance, but you must attend the dance for which you have tickets.

Tickets will go on sale Saturday, January 10 at 8 a.m. There is a limit of six tickets for each household, and all dance/meal sales are final and non-refundable/non-exchangeable.

Go online to FriscoFun.org beginning December 15 for complete ticket information. Light refreshments will also be served at each dance. Limited FREE parking is available. A FREE shuttle service will be provided from the Dr Pepper Ballpark. Valet Parking is \$8.

Innovative Images will be onsite to commemorate the special evening with professional portraits. Packages are \$22 (cash or check only) and include two 5x7 photographs and eight wallets. Photo sessions will be available from 1:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

The Embassy Suites Hotel Convention Center & Spa will be serving an optional pre-dance meal. A special Italian-themed dinner will be served before each dance. The meal will include: tossed salad, chicken fingers, mini pizzas, lasagna, macaroni and cheese, French fries, assorted vegetables, assorted desserts, lemonade, iced tea, coffee and water. Seating is limited to the first 500. Cut-off date to purchase meal tickets is January 26. You must attend the meal for which you have tickets. Meal tickets are \$20 for adults, \$12 for ages 6 - 12 and \$8 for ages 4 - 5.

Meal Times
12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
2:30 - 4:00 p.m.
4:30 - 6:00 p.m.
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

The Embassy Suites is offering an exclusive rate of \$89 for those traveling from out of town or who wish to have a family night out. To reserve a room, visit EmbassySuitesFrisco.com or call (972) 712-7200. Rooms will be limited and are available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

